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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The U.S. Green Building Council Awards Hybrid Homes, LLC and Image Design, LLC
LEED Platinum Certification for their Green Home**

March 26, 2008 – Onekama, MI. Today the new residence at 3047 Vanessa's Way was awarded LEED "Platinum" certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for achievement in green homebuilding and design. LEED for Homes is a national third-party certification system for energy efficient, healthy, green homes. LEED-certified homes complete a technically rigorous process that includes a home energy (HERS) rating and onsite inspections to verify that the home is built to be energy and water efficient, environmentally sound, and a healthier place to live.

This home is one of 37 Michigan projects that have been certified under the LEED for Homes program. It is the first Platinum level home certified in West Michigan and only the 23rd in the nation. The home will be on display during this year's Michigan Energy Fair in Onekama, June 27-29, 2008.

The home was built by Adam Bearup of Hybrid Homes, LLC (Muskegon) who is well known throughout the State for his commitment in building LEED Homes and designed by Eric Hughes of Image Design, LLC (East Grand Rapids) who is recognized for specializing in sustainable residential design. For more information please visit www.wmhybrid.com or www.imagedesignllc.blogspot.com

"The U.S. Green Building Council is proud to help celebrate Hybrid Homes, LLC and Image Design, LLC's commitment to greener living," said Michelle Moore, Senior Vice President of Policy & Market Development, U.S. Green Building Council. "Their leadership – demonstrated at 3047 Vanessa's Way is at the national forefront of quality; and their example can help us all to live better by reducing our environment footprint, cutting our utility bills, and coming home to a healthier place to live."

The paybacks of a LEED home includes economic benefits such as lower energy and water bills environmental benefits like reduced green house gas emissions; and healthy benefits which include reduced exposure to molds, mildew and other indoor toxins.

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Located in Onekama, Michigan, just minutes north of Manistee - 3047 Vanessa's Way incorporates the following features:

- Low-E argon gas filled Andersen Windows
- CertainTeed cement board siding
- High efficiency lighting fixtures
- Compact fluorescent bulbs
- ICF construction
- Soy based insulation
- Passive solar design
- Solar Hot water
- Radiant floor heat
- Wind generation
- Programmable thermostats
- Mechanical ventilation
- Zero VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint
- Bamboo and cork flooring
- Radon venting
- Barrier free/Lifetime Design
- Dual flush TOTO toilets
- Energy Star appliances

And much, much more.

About the U.S. Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since UGSBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 14,500 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building rating systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo (www.greenbuildexpo.org), and a network of 77 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

About LEED® for Homes

LEED® for Homes is a third-party certification system for high-performance green homes. Developed and administered by USGBC, LEED for Homes awards points to projects in seven categories of environmental performance: Location & Linkages, Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality, Energy & Atmosphere, Homeowner Awareness, and Innovation and Design. To date, more than 540 homes have been LEED-certified, and over 13,000 have been registered and are under development. For more information, visit www.thegreenhomeguide.org.

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